

## DWI Court Goals

- Increase public safety by reducing drunk driving
- Participants remain clean and sober
- Reduce alcohol and drug related crime
- Reduce expensive incarceration costs

## DWI court services

- One-on-one judicial interaction
- Intensive probation supervision
- Substance abuse treatment, counseling services and support groups
- Alcohol and drug monitoring and testing
- Cognitive skills programming
- Community service
- Victim Impact Panel
- Education and employment assistance

## Funding

The program is funded through a grant from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and other support.

## Cost

Participants are required to pay Corrections Service, participant, alcohol monitoring, and ignition interlock fees. Participants also may be required to pay restitution.

## For additional information contact:

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## A Partnership of:

Fourth Judicial District Court  
Hennepin County Board  
Hennepin County Community Corrections  
Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health  
Hennepin County Public Defender's Office  
Hennepin County Sheriff's Office  
Minneapolis City Attorney's Office  
Minneapolis and Bloomington Police Departments  
Minnesota Department of Public Safety  
Minnesotans for Safe Driving  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Park Avenue Center



FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## Adult DWI Court



Hennepin County Government Center  
300 South Sixth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55487

Fourth Judicial District  
serving Hennepin County

[www.mncourts.gov/district/4](http://www.mncourts.gov/district/4)

## What is the Adult DWI Court?

The Fourth Judicial District Adult DWI Court is designed for repeat DWI offenders who are striving to live a sober, crime-free and satisfying lifestyle.

An eligible defendant who enters a guilty plea or is convicted of DWI has the option of participating in this 18 (or more) month program which is an alternative to traditional criminal probation.

DWI Court participants must make regular appearances before the designated DWI Court judge. The participants are subject to regular “visits” at home or work by law enforcement and probation and are placed on a curfew. The participants receive treatment, are tested for drugs and alcohol, and attend Twelve Step support and sponsorship meetings. Participants are also required to drive with an interlock device for a minimum of one year after their license is reinstated.

DWI Court participants are offered every opportunity to succeed in the program. Successful completion and graduation from the DWI Court results in being discharged from active probation. Conversely, participants who fail to comply with treatment and other program requirements are subject to sanctions, including increased alcohol monitoring and drug testing, more frequent courtroom appearances, more intensive probation supervision, and periods of incarceration. A participant who fails in DWI Court is sent to jail. DWI Court is a zero tolerance program.

Entry into the DWI Court program is voluntary on the part of the defendant. Participants are required to pay Correctional Service and participant fees, in addition to fees for alcohol monitoring, ignition interlock, and restitution. Fines may also be imposed.

**DWI Court's purpose is to increase public safety, reduce repeat DWI offenses and reduce DWI-related accidents and deaths.**

## Who is eligible for DWI Court?

Participants are evaluated by the DWI Court team on a case-by-case basis. Program entry is strictly voluntary. The general requirements include:

- The participant must be a repeat DWI offender.
- The participant must be a Hennepin County resident and be 18 years of age or over.
- The participant must complete a chemical health assessment and must be diagnosed as chemically dependent.
- Violent offenders are not eligible for DWI Court.
- Other factors considered are the nature of the offense, prioritizing offenders with alcohol concentration of .20 or more, and the participants suitability for rehabilitation.

## Program has three phases

Each phase of the program is designed with specific expectations. Participants receive credit for fulfilling the program requirements one phase at a time. Each of the three phases is at least six months long.

### Phase one

- Attend judicial reviews every week for a minimum of 26 reviews;
- Meet with probation officer weekly;
- Attend 3 treatment, aftercare, or Twelve Step meetings, or a combination thereof;
- Submit to random alcohol and drug screening;
- Actively seek employment or enroll in school;
- Be available for random home visits;
- Obtain a self-help support sponsor and meet with sponsor once a week;
- Observe a curfew
- Complete Sentence to Serve (STS)
- Participate on a Victim Impact Panel

### Phase two

- Attend judicial reviews every other week for a minimum of 13 reviews;

- Meet with probation every other week;
- Submit to random alcohol and drug screening;
- Maintain employment and/or education;
- Continue all other program activities, including participation in a cognitive-behavioral group;
- Be available for random home visits;
- Continue Twelve Step support and sponsorship meetings;
- Observe a curfew

### Phase three

- Attend judicial reviews every four weeks for a minimum of 6 reviews;
- Meet with probation monthly;
- Submit to random alcohol and drug screening;
- Maintain employment and/or education;
- Continue all other program activities;
- Be available for random home visits;
- Continue Twelve Step support and sponsorship meetings;
- Observe a curfew
- Attend 1 Alumni Group meeting

## Graduation

Upon completion of DWI Court, participants are given a certificate of completion and the remaining probationary term is reduced to two years of administrative probation.

## Continuing care

Mentorship, special self-help activities and an alumni group are available to all successful participants.



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